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THE GREAT EARTHQUAKES.

The latest newspapers from Honolulu, Sandwich islands, which reached San Francisco on the 22d ult., supply addi-tional details of the scene at Hilo during the great convulsions, and interesting letters from gentlemen who have visited Mauna Loa and Kilauca since the subsi-dence of their subterraneau fires A letter from a resident of Hilo thus escribes the scene at that place: All Hilo is in the greatest state of ex-

citement All are panic stricken. Thursday, the 2d, at 4:05 p.m., we ex-perienced the most awful earthquake I perienced the most awful earthquake I have ever knows. I was coming from the tannery to my store when I heard a loud rumbling noise, like a number of iron carriages drawn over a raugh road by wild horses. Soon the shock came, and I never shall forget it. The horses in the pasture took fright and ran and snorted, the dogs howled, the cooks crew and hens cackled, the pigeons flew about as though some one had been firing among them. The shock lasted a good while, how long I cannot say, but long enough to make me feel sea sick, and it was with difficulty that I could stand. On reaching the store, such a sight and such reaching the store, such a sight and such a smell greeted me. All the bottles of pie fruits, preserves, sauces, spices, etc., were on the floor, broken. The chimney of the cook-house was thrown down and the end of the house burst in. All the foundation is destroyed, some of the large pillar supports of lava are split. The sea receded some one hundred and fifty or two hundred feet, perhaps more, and when it came back it rose about ten feet above high water mark. No one slept on Thursday night, the earth was moving constantly like a person breathing, and every once in a while it would give a shrug. To day it is shaking every few minutes; my family are all out doors, afraid to stay in the house. As I write it is shaking, and occasionally I wait for it to subside to resume my writing. Stackpole arrived here to-day. He says the sea came in and completely demoisibed every house in the place, and carried off about one hundred and sixty-seven bales of pulu, the store and every-constituting a belt about aix hundred server had an and completely demoisible of about one hundred and sixty-seven bales of pulu, the store and every-constituting a belt about aix hundred. seven bales of pulu, the store and every-thing. He described the shock as more terrible than we had it here.

Hildebrand, who has paid a visit to the great crater, thus describes its appear-

The ground around the crater, particu-larly on the eastern and western sides, is rent by a great number of fissures, one near the Puna road more than twelve feet wide, and very deep; others of lesser size run parallel to and cross the Kau road, so as to render travel on it very dangerous. The look-out house is do tached from the mainland by a very deep tached from the mainland by a very deep crevasse, and stands now on an isolated, overhanging rook, which, at the next severe concussion, must tumble into the pit below. Many small fissures are hidden by grass and bushes, forming so many traps for the unwary. The Volcano House, however, has not suffered, nor is the ground surrounding it broken in the least. From the walls of Kilanea large masses of rock have been detached and thrown down. On the west and northeast side, where the fire had been most active before the great earthquake of April 2, the falling masses probably have been at once motted by the lava, and carried off in its stream, for the mode active placed a placed as place

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S3-30 transformed into a vast pit, more than five hundred feet deep, the solid eastern wall projecting far over the hollow below, while the remaining sides are falling off with a sharp inclination, and consists of a confused mass of lava More than two thirds of the old floor of Kilauea has caved in, and sunk from one hundred to two hundred feet below the level of the remaining floor. The depression embraces the whole western half, and infringes in a semi-circular line on a considerable portion of the other half. It is greatest in the northern, and gradual and gentle in its southern portion. Ensemble of the side of the hill the mud became solid enough to bear our weight, and we walked upon it to the head of the pali. The surface gradually became more rough, the boulders increased, and defacted portions of earth and stone were scattered beyond its borders, which also It is greatest in the northern, and gradual and gentle in its southern portion. Entering upon the depressed floor from the southern lake, it was some time before we became fully aware of its existence. It was only on our return from the northwest corner, where it is deepest, that there presented itself through the mist in which we were enveloped, a high wall of three hundred feet of grotesque and fantastic outlines. At first we were quite bewildered, fancying that we beheld the great outer wall of the crater. On nearer approach we soon satisfied ourselves that this singular wall represented the line of demarkation of a great depression in the floor of the crater—a fact that surprised us the more, as a bird's-eye view from above had altogether failed to apprise us of its existence. enough to bear a man's weight.

failed to apprise us of its existence. been seen several nights in a southwest direction, and that natives had reported nowhere was less than eight feet wide-Its length we estimate at four hunded feet. Parallel with the great crevasse, constituting a belt about six hundred feet in width, were a number of smaller feet in width, were a number of smaller ones each side, diminishing in size with distance from it, from six feet to a few inches. From the larger openings in the former heavy white columns of hot steam issued, which had a decidedly alkaline smell. Smaller jets of vapor, to the number of thirty, rose from the smaller fissures. We could not discover fire in any place, but it is very probable that during dark nights the reflex of the un-

sprinkling of round boulders, with here and there stumps of trees, ferns, hapnu, and amaumau, and entire lebua trunks. Near the lower end a vigorous, healthy taro plant stood erect in the mud, as if it had been planted there. From its sides protruded portions of the bodies of many cattle and goats, overwhelmed in their flight; a gain of one second in time might have saved them. The surface of the mud in its lower course was rather. scattered beyond its borders, which also flattened out gradually. The ascent soon became steep, and here on a short spor, just in the middle of the mud, stands a native bouse on an island of grass and taro, flanked by two trees. A poor wo-man who happened to be in it at the time of the outbreak escaped the awful fate which doomed the remaining mem-bers of her family, and was removed from her perilous situation a few days after, when the crust had become solid

we at once went to that part of it where according to common report, the lava ailed to apprise us of its existence.

In Kapapala we were told that fire had about long before the lava was seen.
Seen seen several nights in a southwest. the end of the house burst in. All the stone walls about the town were fist; Reed's new house was also injured, the foundation is destroyed, some of the five miles from Reed's dwelling, where place where, according to our guide's account, the fountain of lava had been seen. This upper portion of the lava stream fills a broad valley or depression between two parallel low hills of not more than three bundred feet high, both running almost due north and south. From the western one of these hills Whitney had witnessed the eruption. From the eastern hill we in vain looked for a crater or cone. We did not make out any indication of the character of the eruption until we had crossed nearly three-fourths of the stream, which here is not far from a mile wide. Then our attention was attracted by an accommission of scoria. by an accumulation of scoria. Nearing this we were struck by a current of hot air, and a little farther on found ourseives on the brink of a deep gap in the lava about twenty feet wide, but narrowing and continuing itself northward. We walked round the southern end of the gap and followed it up on the west or lee side. Before long we came to another enlargement of the fissure like the former, emitting hot air charged with acid gases, which drove us back. Sull continuing our march on the west side fisures. We could not discover any place, but it is very probable that during dark nights the reflex of the underlying lava should be thrown up, for as the steam did not seem to contain combustible material, it is unlikely that the lights seen should have been produced by it. The mean direction of all the fisures was N. E. 9 degrees N., W. 9 degrees S., or nearly the direction of a line connecting Kilauea with Waiohinu and Kahuku.

As in this district, the earthquake of the latter we were obliged to cross the chasm on the bridge formed by the cone, to the windward side, along which we to the windward side, along which we As in this district, the earthquake of April 2d culminated to its greatest intensity, so as even to rend in twain the framework of a mountain side, and hurldown on the plain a portion of its flank, it is necessary to give a short description of the country in order to insure a proper understanding of the disturbance. The locality in question is that comprised between the ranch stations of Reed & Richardson on the east, and F. Lyman on the west, a distance of five miles. The Government road connecting these two

More than four fifths of the lava is on its castern side, as it followed the declivity of the hillslope to fill the trough of the valley, where it assumed a general downward course. It is from the entire length of the figure that the lava has welled up simultaneously. The waves of lava for some distance from it are all parallel to its course, while in the middle. welled up simultaneously. The waves of lava for some distance from it are all parallel to its course, while in the middle of the stream they stand at a right angle to it. The edges are somewhat raised above the remainder of the stream, and scoria covers it in most parts, forming quite heavy layers where the stream has blowholes. Isolated flakes of brittle lava, resembling cow-dung, probably blows out at the end of the cruption, with fitful spouting of steam and gas, are seen along its course. Nearing the upper end of the valley, where I expected to find the upper end of the fissure, I was surprised at the sudden appearance of a veritable cutaract of lava coming down the precipitous side of the eastern hill, a hight of at least three bundred feet. Having ascended it with considerable toil, I found myself again alongside the big crevasse, which, in passing across the valley, had deflected from its former course to a nearly northeast direction, heading direct for the summit of Mauna Loa.

clear and inodorous when we passed i three days later. A little higher up a koa grove gives still stronger evidence to the strength of the propelling force. The trees first seized are snapped off and prostrate, yet the mud in that place is only a few feet deep. The mass itself is nothing but the loose red soil of the mountain side, with a considerable sprinkling of round boulders, with here and there stumps of trees, ferns, happu. EMBALMERS OF THE DEAD.

As the principal interest was the dis-covery of the main source of the stream, selves on the brink of a deep gap in the

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